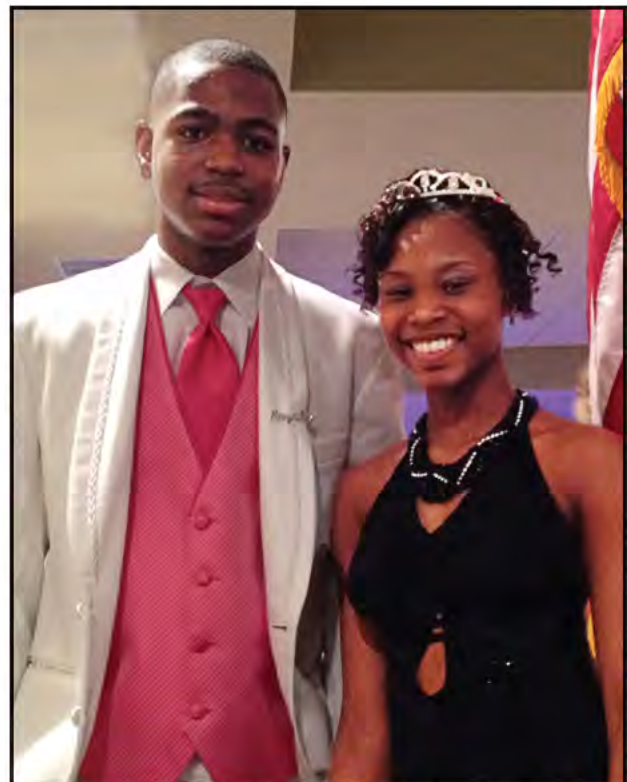


NJROTC Hosts Military Ball



Grenada High School NJROTC held its annual formal military ball on January 25, 2014. The event, modeled after military balls held by all branches of the armed forces, was attended by cadets and guests, GHS administrators, and teachers. Cadets voted for a king, queen, prince, and princess. (Photo left) NJROTC Ball King LaJarvas Simpson and Ball Queen Portia Fox, (Photo center) Sophomore Prince Hansen Bennett and Princess Bre' Edwards, (Photo right) Freshman Prince Devonte Frost and Princess Chasity Jackson

AmeriCorps Member of the Month



By Gwen Woodson
AmeriCorps Director

AmeriCorps' February member of the month, Andrea Rounds, is the type of person who truly believes in helping uplift others but not for the praise she will receive for her good deeds. This is one of the many reasons Rounds is so effective in her position as a full-time AmeriCorps member with the Grenada School District AmeriCorps Program (GSDAP).

Each GSDAP focuses on tutoring Grenada School District K-8 students in math and reading. The Grenada School District has hosted AmeriCorps members for the last 6 years in the role of tutors. The GSDAP member is principally responsible for tutoring 38 students during the school year. There are approximately 1,015 students involved in the tutoring program.

Placed at the Grenada Upper Elementary School, Rounds is committed to getting things done. As an AmeriCorps member, Rounds has also served the community at the Food Pantry, reading programs at the Elizabeth Jones library, Boys & Girls Club, Grenada Downtown Jubilee, and the MLK breakfast. She has two children, A'Lante K. Hubbard and Jeremiah A. Hubbard.

Rounds states, "Thinking back over

the year, I have learned so much about the students, the community, and even myself. I have challenged myself in ways that I thought were not possible and I have grown so much, becoming more patient and understanding. For these and so many other moments, I want to take the opportunity to sincerely thank the Grenada School District AmeriCorps Program Staff for giving me this opportunity. You took a chance and gave me the opportunity to create a learning experience for so many students and to give them the chance to gain important academic skills. I want to thank my students for allowing me to tutor them and making an impact on my life. It has truly made every second of hard work worth it."

"Shortly after Andrea joined the program, she quickly caught on to what needed to be done and the best way to do it," according to the GSDAP Program Director Gwen Woodson, "Including helping other members with their needs. She has a true heart of service and is willing to do whatever is asked of her."

During the 2013-14 program year, 29 full-time AmeriCorps members of all ages and backgrounds are serving the community and schools by tutoring, coordinating volunteer programs, and accomplishing other goals to move Grenada forward.

In exchange for a year of service, AmeriCorps members earn an education award of \$5,550 that can be used to pay for college or to pay back qualified student loans. Rounds plans to use her education award to pay off student loans and finish her education.

AmeriCorps is administered by the Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Service and the Corporation for National and Community Service, part of a White House initiative to foster a culture of citizenship, service, responsibility.

For more information about the Grenada School District AmeriCorps Program, contact Program Director Gwen Woodson at gwoodson@grenadak12.com. For more information about AmeriCorps, visit www.americorps.gov.

GCTC Welding Students Compete in Skills USA



(front l to r) McRae Burns, Austin Hunt, (back) Jacob Carson

By: Phillip McCarter
& Bonnie Brunt

The welding class at GCTC competes annually in the district and state Skills USA contests. The welding fabrication team went to district competition on February 4, 2014, at Mississippi Delta Community College in Morehead, Mississippi, with only two of a three man team and placed third in the competition.

The contest was to construct a receiver hitch luggage rack for the rear of a vehicle. The team was given a weld procedure specification (WPS) and raw, non-prepared metal. The project had to be laid out, cut, prepared, fitted, tacked together, and then welded. The team had to be able to read and interpret welding symbols and apply the information derived from them. The project was graded on how well it was constructed. Students

competing at the district contest were McRae Burns and Austin Hunt. In an additional district competition, Mason Gettys placed second in structural welding.

The state Skills USA competition was held on February 25-26, 2014, at the Trade Center in Jackson, Mississippi. The competition team consisted of two members, advanced welding students McRae Burns and Austin Hunt, and a third member who was a first year student, Jacob Carson. The team was issued a WPS and raw materials to construct a self-contained barbecue grill. Using the OFC (oxyfuel cutting), GMAW (gas metal welding), and SMAW (shielded metal arc welding) processes, the team was awarded third place for their barbecue grill. There were 15 teams in the contest. Congratulations to these students on their accomplishments and to their welding instructor Phillip McCarter.